

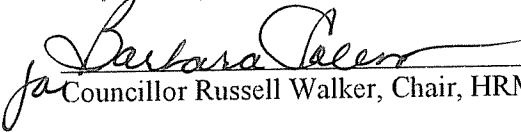


PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

**Item No. 11.3.2**

Halifax Regional Council  
March 3, 2009

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of the Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Councillor Russell Walker, Chair, HRM Grants Committee

**DATE:** February 27, 2009

**SUBJECT:** HRM Re-Capitalization Assistance to Community Recreation Facilities  
2008-2009: Appeal - St Margaret's Centre

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**ORIGIN**

Grants Committee meeting of February 16, 2009.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Regional Council:

1. Approve a capital grant in the amount of \$20,000 towards the replacement of the pool liner;
2. To carry-forward an amount of \$80,000 pending a supplementary report to the HRM Grants Committee.

### **BACKGROUND**

See staff report dated January 20, 2009, Attachment 1 to this report.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

See staff report dated January 20, 2009, Attachment 1 to this report.

### **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

See staff report dated January 20, 2009, Attachment 1 to this report.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Supplementary Report dated See staff supplementary report dated January 20, 2009.

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210 or Fax 490-4208.

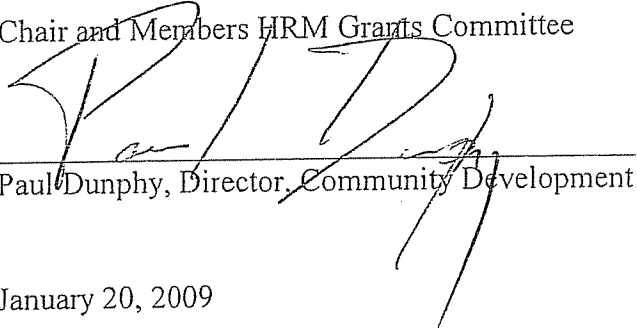
Report Prepared By: Barbara Coleman, Legislative Assistant.



PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
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HRM Grants Committee  
February 16, 2009

**TO:** Chair and Members HRM Grants Committee

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Paul Dunphy, Director, Community Development

**DATE:** January 20, 2009

**SUBJECT:** HRM Re-Capitalization Assistance to Community Recreation Facilities  
2008-2009: Appeal - St. Margaret's Centre

### ORIGIN

January 20, 2009, Regional Council approved holding an amount of \$100,000 pending further evaluation of a request from St. Margaret's Centre, Tantallon, towards the re-development of the swimming pool.

Subsequent to the initial staff report, the St. Margaret's Centre has requested a change in scope of project.

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the HRM Grants Committee:

1. Approve a capital grant in the amount of \$20,000 towards the replacement of the pool liner;
2. Make a determination of eligibility regarding a change in scope of project to include a grant of \$80,000 towards the purchase of an ice re-surfacing machine.

## BACKGROUND

The St. Margaret's Centre originally requested a capital grant of \$100,000 towards the re-development of the centre's swimming pool. The projected total cost was \$800,000. The project's financing included a request to NS Health Promotion & Protection for \$300,000 and the balance to be raised through an area rate. In the opinion of staff the proposal lacked sufficient detail with respect to the construction timelines and funding was unconfirmed. A decision was deferred pending a meeting with the applicant, provincial staff, and the councillors for District 22 and 23. This meeting was held January 16, 2009.

Given that any new area rate would not come into effect until the end of the current area rate (~2014-2015) and the proposed project cannot secure provincial funding until cost-sharing is confirmed, the St. Margaret's Centre have requested a change in scope of project. The Centre has requested \$20,000 towards a replacement liner for the existing pool and \$80,000 towards the purchase of an ice re-surfacing machine.

## DISCUSSION

### **1. Review of Proposal**

The feasibility of the proposed pool re-development project hinges upon an area rate.

On April 20, 2004, Regional Council approved a loan of \$2,964,500 to the St. Margaret's Centre for the construction of a second ice surface. To secure HRM's financing an area rate was approved in the event that the Centre could not meet its loan repayment obligations. In 2006, the area rate was implemented and at current assessment values/households is expected to be retired in 2014-2015. This area rate is for a specific purpose and cannot be modified to serve another project. If an area rate is required to fund a pool re-development, a new public consultation process is required as per the Interim Area Rate Guidelines (2000). As such, the pool project could not advance for another 4-5 years if it relies heavily upon an area rate. The market for such an amenity might also need to be demonstrated given the development of new swimming facilities at the Mainland Common complex.

**Staff recommend that \$100,000 not be awarded in 2008-2009 for a proposed pool re-development.**

### **2. New Request**

Because a new pool will not be considered for at least 4-5 years, the condition of the existing pool requires a new pool liner at an estimated cost of \$20,000. The centre have also requested a change in scope of project for the purchase of a new ice re-surfacing machine. A condition report conducted by HRM staff shows that the Centre owns two machines both of which are in poor condition. One was purchased in 1985 and re-built in 1998, the second is nearing the end of its useful life.

These two items fall within the risk management criteria of the program guidelines.

Staff recommend a grant in the amount of \$20,000 for a new pool liner.

Staff request a determination of eligibility from the HRM Grants Committee regarding a change in scope of project to include a grant of \$80,000 towards the purchase of an ice resurfacing machine.

### BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

With Regional Council's approval, an amount of \$100,000 has been held in Capital Account CBX01146 pending evaluation of the original submission.

### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

### ALTERNATIVES

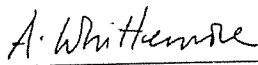
1. The HRM Grants Committee would overturn staff's recommendation with respect to a replacement pool liner on the basis that this was not part of the original submission.

### ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead Grants & Contributions, Community Relations & Cultural Affairs, Community Development, 490-5469

Report Approved by:   
Andrew Whittemore, Manager, Community Relations & Cultural Affairs,  
Community Development